

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

January 22, 2015

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councilors Rachelle Armstrong (W1), Mike Kelly (W2), Dale Dowdle (W3), Paul O'Connell (W4), Becky Kasper (W5), Joshua Kretser (W6)

**Absent:** **Mayor James Calnon**

\*\*\*\*\*

**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on January 8, 2015 and the 2015 Organizational meeting held on January 8, 2015 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the weeks ending January 14, 2015 in the amount of \$ 338,087.64 and January 21, 2015 in the amount of \$ 271,181.35 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor O'Connell

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the weeks of January 8 - January 21, 2015
- Report from the Building Inspector's office January 16, 2015
- Statement from the City Clerk's Office of all monies received during the month of December 2014 in the total amount of \$9,867.01
- Report from City Engineer to Establish Traffic Zone Designation No. 954 "Establish loading zone at 1 Durkee Street"
- Report of Public Hearing held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on January 20, 2015

**RESOLVED:** That the reports as listed are hereby ordered received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**4. CORRESPONDENCE OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None**

\*\*\*\*\*

**5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the bills Audited by the Common Council for the weeks ending January 16, 2015 in the amount of \$ 673,848.29 and January 23, 2015 in the amount of \$ 1,216,602.78 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL: None**

\*\*\*\*\*

**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the Plattsburgh Air Force Base Museum operated by the Battle of Plattsburgh Association to hold a formal ceremony in recognition of 20 years since the formal base closure (September 30, 1995) on September 30, 2015 at the Plattsburgh Barracks Veterans Park on the U.S. Oval near the flagpoles.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves that the ALS Walk of Hope event at Trinity Park, Macdonough Park and City Hall steps and grounds date be changed from May 23, 2015 to June 6, 2015. Lower Court Street and Trinity Place would be closed to vehicle traffic to accommodate a festival and gathering of supporters. In addition, the walk would utilize sidewalks on Cornelia Street, Beekman Street, Broad Street, Margaret Street, Bridge Street, and City Hall Place.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**C. THE MAYOR HANDS DOWN THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN KANOZA TO THE CITY PLANNING BOARD TO COMPLETE THE BALANCE OF AN UNEXPIRED TERM TO BEGIN ON JANUARY 23, 2015 AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2015.**

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a proposal from B&L for "Akey Landfill Post Closure Monitoring" be approved for a total lump sum of \$33,000.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Law, the Common Council approves removing "#2. Speakers must give their name, address and organization, if any" from the approved "City of Plattsburgh Rules for Public Comment."

### **Motion to Table:**

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Tabled

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**F. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2013-21 "Sodium Hypochlorite for the Water Pollution Control Plant & Water Filtration Plant" be awarded to Surpass Chemical Company, Inc. for an estimated total price of \$75,396.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**G. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2013-22 “Sodium Thiosulfate for the Water Pollution Control Plant” be awarded to Thatcher Company of NY for an estimated total price of \$63,935.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**H. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2013-23 “Liquid Alum for the Water Pollution Control Plant” be awarded to Slack Chemical Company for an estimated total price of \$15,532.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**I. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Contract # 2014-1 “Laboratory Services” be awarded to Adirondack Environmental Services for the laboratory portion and Endyne, Inc for BOD/CBOD analysis portion for an estimated total price of \$105,000.

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O’Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**J. RESOLVED:** In accordance with Councilor Armstrong’s request the Common Council approves Establishing a Snow Removal Advisory Committee.

### **Resolution to Establish a Snow Removal Advisory Committee**

**Whereas** the City Charter and the City Code state that, unless an exception applies, snow shall be cleared from sidewalks 24 hours after a storm, and

**Whereas**, despite the due diligence of city employees to follow the procedures set up by the Charter and the Code, sidewalk clearance continues to be a matter of concern for all pedestrians, and

**Whereas** public input is important to the process of solving this problem, and citizen advisory committees are a valuable means of enhancing dialogue through the exchange of perspectives from diverse stakeholders, especially those who rely upon sidewalks, and

**Whereas** advisory bodies are able to focus on a single issue, and are able to provide, through research, recommendations to City Government in a timely fashion, now therefore

**Be it Resolved** that the City of Plattsburgh Common Council authorizes the establishment of a Snow Removal Advisory Committee, charged with the task to research immediate and long range solutions for pedestrian access on City sidewalks and to summarize that research and present their findings and recommendations to the Common Council. The committee of up to ten individuals will be comprised of citizen stakeholders representing a variety of perspectives of City residents who rely on sidewalks. The citizen stakeholders should include a senior, disabled citizen, youth, non-driver, property owner, business owner, school administrator or health professional. Additionally, two members of City Government will serve. Citizen stakeholders shall be appointed from a list of volunteers who will register their interest with the Mayor's office by completing an application. Two members of City Government shall select from the list of volunteers.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Kelly

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**K. Motion to waive rule 4 for initial consideration** "Request from Bill Treacy, Manager MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from October 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013 in the total amount of \$1,591.49. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .16%." and "Request from the City Chamberlain to revise capital project H5110.46, 2014 Equipment Replacement, to remove a \$21,000 auto and replace it with a \$27,000 pick-up truck and change the funding source, for the 1/3 General Fund share, from \$7,000 from debt service to \$9,000 from DPW operations."

By Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kasper

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

**RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from October 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013 in the total amount of \$1,591.49. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .16%.

By Councilor Kretser; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

**RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to revise capital project H5110.46, 2014 Equipment Replacement, to remove a \$21,000 auto and replace it with a \$27,000 pick-up truck and change the funding source, for the 1/3 General Fund share, from \$7,000 from debt service to \$9,000 from DPW operations.

By Councilor Kelly; Seconded by Councilor Kretser

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

\*\*\*\*\*

**8. TRAVEL REQUEST:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Building Inspector Joseph McMahon, Housing Inspectors; Kenneth Primard, Claude Bouchard and Kyle Burdo to attend the "Northern Adirondack Code Enforcement Officials Education Conference" in Lake Placid, NY from March 2 – 5, 2015 at a cost of \$1,140. This education conference provides mandatory training hours to retain Code Enforcement Certification

By Councilor Kasper; Seconded by Councilor Dowdle

Discussion: Yes

Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:**

1. Request from Bill Treacy, Manager MLD to write-off unpaid final bills from October 1, 2013 to October 31, 2013 in the total amount of \$1,591.49. The percentage of write-offs for this period is .16%. **(Move to agenda under "Other Items" Letter K)**
2. Request from the City Chamberlain to revise capital project H5110.46, 2014 Equipment Replacement, to remove a \$21,000 auto and replace it with a \$27,000 pick-up truck and change the funding source, for the 1/3 General Fund share, from \$7,000 from debt service to \$9,000 from DPW operations. **(Move to agenda under "Other Items" Letter K)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Councilor Kretser** spoke about the new Charter Commission.

**Councilor O'Connell** spoke about the new Charter Commission.

**Councilor Armstrong** spoke about a certified letter they received from John Burdo and also she attended Clinton County Town Supervisors meeting.

**Councilor O'Connell** stated he and Councilor Kasper will meet with Veterans about dedication of Bridge and he is working on a dedication for Gerald Burdo Little League Field.

**Councilor Dowdle** spoke about work sessions structure and committee structure.

\*\*\*\*\*

**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**Gary Sargeant** spoke of his concerns about sidewalks in the city.

**Councilors Armstrong, Kasper, Kelly and Dowdle** asked questions and further discussion on this topic.

\*\*\*\*\*

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor O'Connell; Seconded by Councilor Kelly  
Roll call: Councilors Armstrong, Kelly, Dowdle, O'Connell, Kasper, Kretser  
(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:20 pm**